merely designated the plant by a polynomial, with the queried word "islandicum" in parentheses: "*Sisymbrium,* (islandicum?) *siliquis brevibus*" etc. This is certainly not a clear publication of the binomial *S. islandicum* and I was in error in following Schinz & Thellung without verification. Incidentally, although it is now of but slight importance, Dr. Alfred Becherer of Basel calls my attention to the fact that the combination *Roripa islandica* goes back to Borbás, Balaton Tavának és Partmellékének, 392 (1900), where the combination is published, with *S. islandicum* Oeder as its basis. Under the International Rules *Roripa palustris* (L.) Bess. seems to be the correct name.—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

HYDRANGEA PANICULATA NATURALIZED IN MASSACHUSETTS.

R. J. EATON.

EARLY in September, my brother, F. W. Eaton reported that he had seen from the road a conspicuous patch of *Hydrangea,* well established in a swamp in Lincoln, Massachusetts, about three-quarters of a mile northeast of the village, and within a stone's-throw of cultivated farm land. I visited the place, and was amazed to find a veritable tangle of *Hydrangea* in full flower, growing in a peaty maple swamp which had been partially cleared perhaps five years ago, judging from the size of those maple sprouts which have successfully competed with the Hydrangea. Although this shrub constitutes the dominant growth in an area of about two acres, other plants such as *Rhododendron viscosum, Vaccinium, Clethra,* and *Rubus,* were noted in some abundance. Generally speaking, the Hydrangea grew in rather dense irregular clumps at an average height of 1.5 meters. The tallest specimen to be found, growing as a single wand-like sapling on the edge of the clearing in partial shade, was over three meters in height. Most of the clumps were in full sunlight, and bore scores of flowering panicles. Judging from the diameter of the woody stems, ranging from four to eight centimeters at the ground, and from the large number of individual plants growing in a maximum area of perhaps three acres, it is quite probable that the Hydrangea was thoroughly established many years ago. Presumably, it bloomed sparsely if at all while shaded by the maple growth, and became conspicuous only after the trees were cut off. It is probable but not

clearly established that the plants have been propagated by seed. There is no direct evidence of rooting at the tips of the recurved branches. The flowering panicles contain relatively few neutral flowers. About 90% of each inflorescence consists of fertile flowers developing into mature and dehiscing capsules and apparently producing ripe seeds.

Collections from this station have been identified by Prof. M. L. Fernald as *H. paniculata* Sieb., a native of China and Japan. It is said to be the hardiest member of the genus. Originally introduced into America about sixty-five years ago, it has shown no marked disposition to escape from cultivation. In fact, there is no mounted material from naturalized stations to be found at all at the Gray Herbarium, at the Arnold Arboretum, at the New York Botanical Garden, or at the Herbarium of the N. E. Botanical Club. So far as can be learned from such authorities as Fernald, Rehder, and Britton this species has never yet been reported as naturalized in North America. One record only of its escape in New England has been brought to my attention, and that one unimportant, *viz:* in RHODORA XIX: 226 where a plant near a railroad is reported from Connecticut with the erroneous statement that it is a fugitive from the Southern States.

Specimens from the Lincoln station have been deposited in the Gray Herbarium.

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

VICTORIN'S LES GYMNOSPERMES DU QUÉBEC.[1]—Another detailed monograph from the hand of Brother Marie-Victorin has recently been published. This follows the papers on the ferns and fern-allies and takes up in the same way the Gymnosperms of Quebec. As in the other monographs there are two parts—Révision et Discussion, and Traité Systématique. The former covers only 27 pages, because the nomenclature has been previously discussed in another paper.[2]

Particularly interesting is the discussion of the white and black spruces and their forms, for Brother Victorin recognizes no varietal distinctions in the Quebec species of this genus. He describes one new form, forma *parva*, which he illustrates with three fine half-tone

[1] Les Gymnospermes du Québec. Par Frère Marie-Victorin. xiv + 144 pages, 38 figures et un frontispice. 1927. $1.00. (Contrib. Lab. Bot. Univ. Montréal No. 10.)

[2] Notes pour servir à l'histoire de connaissances sur les Abiétacées du Québec. Par Frère Marie-Victorin. 1926. (Contrib. Lab. Bot. Univ. Montréal No. 7.)